

FARM BUSINESS IN
BOX BUTTE COUNTYVery Encouraging Is the First Report
on Farming Business in
This County

RESULTS OF FARM SURVEY

NOTE—Made through the County
Farmers' Association cooperating
with the Extension service, Nebraska
College of Agriculture, and U. S.
Department of Agriculture.

The report covers the rather unfavorable crop season of 1914, and cannot be taken as an average of conditions prevailing in Box Butte county. However, this fact does not make the report any the less valuable, as a study of factors affecting farm profits. In spite of an adverse season, a number of farms made good labor incomes, that is, after paying all farm expense and allowing five per cent interest on capital involved, there was a fair sum left as pay for the operator's labor. In addition to labor incomes the operator had a home in which to live and whatever the farm furnished toward the family living. In the corn belt it has been found that what the farm furnishes toward the family living amounts to about \$400 per year. In this area the figure might be slightly less. With these facts in mind it is readily seen that though labor incomes is a good measure of the profitability of a farm business it is not directly comparable with city salaries.

In making a farm management survey farms are not selected, but taken just as they come. In this area, out of 55 farms which entered into the averages, 15 made minus labor incomes averaging \$595. A minus labor income means that after paying expenses they fell \$595 short of paying five per cent interest on their capital.

The average labor income of all records (55 farms) was \$30. The fifteen best paying farms in this group of fifty-five made an average labor income of \$763.

The question then arises, how did the organization of business on poor paying farms differ from the organization of business on good paying farms?

Wherever the labor income of individual records varies from a minus \$1700 to a plus \$2200 there must be some cause. Of a large number of factors having an effect on farm profits, two, which fall largely within the control of the operator, are outstanding. These are (1) the size of business; (2) the quality of business. The discussion which follows will be confined to size of business. Quality of business will be discussed in a later issue.

The best measures of size of business in this type of farming are farm area, crop area, amount of live stock kept (expressed by the number of animal units), total receipts, total expenses, and capital. Size of farm in this survey ranged from 160 acres to over 4,000 acres. Few if any farms under a half section were found to be profitable while a large number of farms ranging in size from one to two sections gave good returns. The fifty-five farms studied averaged 967 acres (waste land, pasture and crops), 185 acres of crops, 34 animal units, \$1,840 receipts, \$757 expenses and \$21,055 capital. Averaging fifteen of the poorest paying farms found among the fifty-five gave 1,143 total acreage, 160 acres of crops, 28 animal units, \$1,304 receipts, \$768 expenses, and \$22,628 capital. On these farms the principal measures indicating a business smaller than the average are crop acreage, number of animal units, and receipts. Fifteen of the best paying farms out of 55 averaged 1009 total acreage, 275 acres of crops, 51 animal units, \$2,650 receipts, and 1,140 expenses, and \$24,942 capital.

In any type of farming where extensive grazing of cattle and horses is combined with the raising of rough feeds and cash crops such as potatoes, and wheat it is impossible for small farms to return a good labor income. The best size of farm for this locality appears to be close to a section and a half. It is the size most easily cared for by the average family. Stated in another way, it is the size which makes the most efficient use of labor and average equipment.

In the article to follow on "Quality of Farm Business", it will be seen that a close relation exists between size of business and the efficiency of labor; also that size of business may limit the profitability of live stock and crop enterprises.

APPRECIATED

"We like you!" said the Cannibal King.

In greeting to the missionary.

"In fact, you seem the very thing. Take this from me, you're welcome, very!"

You ask me what of Father Tim? Oh, we were very fond of him—We liked him to the very last, Till down the trail at length he passed.

You ask me where he went, slack! From where he's gone there's no comeback. He went into the interior—We'll never find his superior!"

—FRANK B. THOMAS.

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MUST PAY WARRANTS

Supreme Court Orders State Treasurer
to Pay Fire Commissioner
Ridgell Warrants

(By Herald Correspondent)
Lincoln, Neb., Dec. 8.—Secretary of State Pool filed his semi-annual report with Governor Morehead as provided by law on December 1st. This report shows the secretary of state's office to have transacted a large volume of business during the past six months, the period covered being from June 1 inclusive. A total of \$107,243.43 was received by the secretary, showing a gain over 1914 for the same months of \$12,023.04, or more than two thousand dollars each month.

	1914	1915
Total coll.	\$95,220.39	\$107,243.43
Net increase in 6 mo.		\$12,023.04

Besides the above the office of secretary of state shows in the automobile department the following: Coll. on hand May 31, '15 \$1,096.17; Coll. from County Treas. 14,968.72; Coll. sale of auto. lists 742.92

The last item, \$742.92, is net money collected by the secretary of state, Charles W. Pool, and this is the first time that it has been placed where it belongs, in the state treasury.

Wayne Normal School
From a report made to State Auditor Wm. H. Smith by the state accountant it appears that in the little over five years existence of the Wayne state normal school, somewhat more than fifty-one thousand dollars has been collected in fees of various kinds from the students. At present there are 439 in attendance, of which 154 are former students, 160 newly matriculated and 125 training school students. Total matriculants, 2329.

The cash collections from September 17, 1910, to November 23, 1915, inclusive, are as follows: \$51,539.59. These collections have been disposed of as follows: Remitted to state treasurer, \$41,914.77; refunded to students, \$5,886.51; vouchers paid by check, \$2,997.14; balance on hand \$741.17.

Of the balance on hand November 23, 1915, the sum of \$187.69 will be remitted to the state treasurer soon, and the remaining \$553.48 will be retained to cover textbook refunds to students.

The popularity of Governor John H. Morehead as Nebraska's chief executive, and as a citizen, was clearly defined last Thursday evening at the banquet given in his honor at the Lincoln hotel, and in commemorating the completion of the Holdrege street paving connecting Lincoln with University Place, on which inmates of the penitentiary were almost exclusively employed. The building of this road was an experiment which more than vindicated Governor Morehead's judgment as to the feasibility of working prison inmates on the public roads and highways. About 200 banquets were present, a goodly number from our town, and a number of rousing good speeches were made commending Governor Morehead as a leading good roads enthusiast who does things, and as Nebraska's greatest business governor.

The Supreme Court handed down its decision in the mandamus suit, instituted by Fire Commissioner Ridgell to compel State Treasurer Hall to pay fire commissioner warrants, last Friday morning. Mr. Ridgell wins, the court taking the position that fire commission fees are trust funds, and as such State Treasurer Hall cannot legally refuse to honor warrants where these warrants are properly audited by the state auditor. It is assumed by state house officials that this will settle the controversy over the payment of food and oil commission warrants, as well as those of other departments.

SUPT. PATE RETAINED

Action of School Board Was Unanimous
in Retaining Mr. Pate
—Met Monday Night

A unanimous vote was cast by the school board for the retention of W. R. Pate as superintendent of the Alliance city schools at the meeting of that body Monday night, the renewal of the contract being for three years.

This not only met with the approval of the school board, but with every patron of the schools as well. Mr. Pate's work has been far above the average, and in a great measure thru his efforts the Alliance schools have come to be regarded as among the very best in the state—the best public schools in western Nebraska. Not only is there the complete grade course, but in addition there are the domestic science, manual training, agricultural and the business courses that have been recently added. There are few, if any, complaints on the manner in which the schools are conducted, and this is something that, alone, the management can feel proud of.

The Alliance schools can well be termed the frictionless schools, not only with the teachers, but with the teachers and the patrons. Parents know that when they send their children to school here they will receive the best of instruction and receive it under the proper conditions.

CALL FOR CONVENTION

President and Secretary of American
National Live Stock Ass'n Issue
Call for January Meeting

Denver, Colo., Dec. 8.—To all members and all live-stock associations and live-stock producers:

Call is hereby made for the Nineteenth Annual Convention of the American National Live Stock Association, to be held at El Paso, Texas, January 25, 26 and 27, 1916; convening at 10 o'clock a. m., on Tuesday, January 25; morning sessions only.

Among the many subjects for consideration are:

Federal control of public grazing lands; the 640-acre grazing homestead bill; administration of forest reserves; eradication of poisonous plants; marketing of live stock and its products; delays at terminals; stock-yard facilities; financing live-stock loans; valuations in railroad live-stock contract; charge for cleaning and disinfecting of cars; railroad rates and services; recent rate cases before the Interstate Commerce Commission; suppression of the foot-and-mouth and other infectious diseases; sanitary regulations of different states; prohibition of the importation of live stock and animal products from countries where contagious diseases exist; inspection of meats and hides from Mexico; protection of American live stock owners and ranchmen in Mexico; live-stock conditions in foreign countries; destruction of predatory animals; exports and imports of live stock and meats; meat-inspection law; prohibitive tax on oleomargarine; needed legislation; reports of officers and standing committees.

These and other questions will be discussed by men prominent in the live-stock world. An unusually interesting program is being arranged. Officers of the Bureau of Animal Industry and the Forest Service will be present at our meeting.

The annual convention of the National Wool Growers' Association will be held in Salt Lake City, Utah, January 12, 14 and 15, 1916.

The National Western Stock Show will be held in Denver, Colorado, on January 17 to 22, 1916.

The railroads have agreed to grant reduced rates to our convention, of which due notice will be sent out later.

El Paso has promised us a royal welcome.

All stockmen are invited to attend.
DWIGHT B. HEARD, Pres.
T. W. TOMLINSON, Sec.

BAND CONCERT SUNDAY

Alliance Organization Will Give First
of a Series of Free Concerts
at the Imperial

At the Imperial theatre next Sunday afternoon at 2:30, the Alliance band will give a free concert. The boys have been putting in some hard licks getting the program ready for rendition, and their program will no doubt be well received. The numbers are varied freely. Admission is free, and all who care to come are welcome. Following is the program: Howard March... Will Huff "Chorus" Polka (Cornet Duet)... L. P. Laurendeau "The Cavalier" overture... T. H. Rollinson "Blue Jackets" march... C. C. Bennett INTERMISSION Gipsyland March... A. F. Lithgow "Evening Shadows" Serenade... K. L. King "Nightfall" Serenade... K. L. King Regimental Review... F. A. Panella

PRISONERS TO PEN

Sheriff Cox Took Quartet to Lancaster
to Begin Serving Their
Terms—Three Forgers

Sheriff Cox went to Lancaster Saturday night, taking with him Charles Vaughan, Jack Kendall, A. A. McCoy, alias Verdie Lewis, and George Watkins, colored, all of whom were given terms ranging from one to twenty years at the beginning of the last session of the district court. Vaughan, Kendall and McCoy were sent up for forgery, and Watkins for stealing a suit of clothes from Jimmy Washington a few weeks ago. Watkins went to Crawford immediately after the theft, but was caught there the next day after he arrived.

William Dunbar, sentenced to the reform school for being implicated in the robbery of the Newberry warehouse, in which several boxes of shells were stolen, was taken to Kearney Tuesday night by Sheriff Cox. Dunbar would have fared fairly well had he not tried to skip the country after he had plead guilty. With his first sentence he might have been out of the reformatory in a year or less, depending on his behavior, but after his attempt to escape, Judge Westover changed the sentence, and Dunbar will now be incarcerated until he is twenty years old. He is now nearly eighteen.

To the Public:
The Burlington Hotel now serves dining room meals for 35 cents. S. Barrett, Proprietor. 1-16-6548

WHY SMITH LEFT HOME

Junior Class Play to be Presented at
the Phelan Opera House Fri-
day, December 10

The Junior class play entitled "Why Smith Left Home" will be given at the Phelan opera house tomorrow (Friday) evening, December 10. The class has been working on this play for the past several weeks, and some splendid talent has been found in the Junior ranks. Everything indicates that it will be one of the best plays ever given by the high school.

Synopsis:
Mr. and Mrs. Smith have been married for six months, but because of important business matters they could not go on a honeymoon and because of unwelcome guests and relatives, cannot enjoy themselves at home. When Juliette, Mr. Smith's sister of 42, agrees to give the Count her hand in marriage, Mr. Smith then thinks they will surely get a few days of peace and comfort in their home. But news is received from Mrs. Smith's foster mother, Aunt Mary, that she and her husband, the general, are coming for a nice long visit. Mr. Smith is much enraged about this and he decides to bribe the cook into doing "good bad" cooking while Aunt Mary stays, to which Lavinia, the cook, agrees. Before Aunt Mary arrives, Bob, Mrs. Smith's brother, and his wife, come unexpectedly. As Mr. Smith has never seen Bob, Mrs. Smith passes them as an Italian music teacher and his sister. Numerous misunderstandings arise, and Mr. Smith decides to leave home, altho he still loves and trusts his wife. Why Smith left home will be revealed at the opera house Friday night.

Cast of Characters
John Smith, who loves his wife and lives in New York... Oral Harvey General Billethead, his wife's second husband... Hugh Davenport Count von Guggenheim, who made them twisted... Otto Snyder Major Duncombe, with memories of last night... Lester Harvey Robert Walton Mrs. Smith's brother... Vernon Hamilton Mrs. John Smith, who loves her husband, no matter where he lives... Neva Howe Miss Smith, a lady in waiting... Thelma Fitzpatrick Mrs. Billethead, Mrs. Smith's aunt... Rose Carlson Rose Walton, Robert's bride of a day... Mabel Grassman Julia, touchingly clever... Jeanette Haney Elsie, a maid... Clara Osborne Lavinia Daly, who is a lady and who knows it. Tressa Vandervoort

PIONEER WOMAN DEAD

Mrs. Carrie Price Was Former Resi-
dent of Box Butte

Mrs. Carrie Price, aged 64 years, died at the home of her son, John Rissel, in Hoskins, Neb., on Friday, November 26, after a gradual failing of years. Mrs. Price was born in Mora, Sweden, September 8, 1851. In 1871 she was married to her first husband, Hans Rissel, moving to America in 1889 and settling in Box Butte county. Mr. Rissel died in 1893, and in 1900 she married John Price. Mr. and Mrs. Price moved to Beza in 1903, where they made their home until 1908, when Mr. Price departed this life. Since that time Mrs. Price had been making her home with her children, spending most of her time with her daughter, Mrs. Oliver Crocker. She leaves two sons, Andrew Rissel, of Cambridge, Minn., and John Rissel, of Hoskins, and one daughter, Mrs. Oliver Crocker, of Stanton.

ELECTED NEW OFFICERS

Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen
and Enginemen Elect F. W.
Hicks Grand Lodge Delegate

At the regular election of Alliance Lodge 623 of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Enginemen, the following officers were elected for the ensuing year: President, J. A. Phelan; vice president, G. C. Ruth; recording and financial secretary, F. W. Hicks; local chairman, J. A. Witowack; local board, G. C. Ruth, W. J. Mahoney; trustee for three years, N. T. Shawver; delegate to grand lodge, F. W. Hicks; alternate delegate, J. A. Witowack. The grand lodge meets once every three years and is a big event in the history of the Brotherhood.

Land Restored to Entry

Under a recent departmental order the lands herein described are restored to the public domain and released from a former withdrawal under the Reclamation.

These lands will be subject to settlement on January 25, 1916, at 9 o'clock a. m., and not before, and will be subject to filing or entry February 24, 1916, at 9 o'clock a. m.

The lands referred to are as follows: S $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$, N $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 27, in Township 24 North of Range 56 West of 6th P. M.; and NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ and SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 24 in Township 25 North of Range 56 West of 6th P. M.

BAPTISTS TAKE GAMES

Took Double-Header from Methodists
—Hemingford Took Two
from Christians

The Baptists won both games from the Methodists in the basketball games at the high school gymnasium Saturday night. In the intermediate game the Baptists were easily the victors by reason of their superior team work. The final score was 3 to 13. Following was the list of players:

Methodists: Lunn, W. Lotspeich, F. Lotspeich, Edwards, Vandervoort, and Rider. Baptists: Fenning, R. Butler, Powell, Nelson and Wright.

While the Junior game was a little closer than the other, the Baptist boys got away with a good majority, the score being 12 to 6 in their favor. Following is the list of boys that played in that game: Baptists, L. Butler, Fenning, Wright, Fuller, Bicknell. Methodists: Calder, Edwards, Grassman, Martin and Osborne.

Hemingford Took Two

In the games played at Hemingford on the same night between the Hemingford Methodists and the Alliance Christians, the Hemingfordites captured both prizes. The score in the intermediate game was 23 to 13, and in the Junior game 12 to 3. The Christians lay their defeat to the fact that the floor was as slick as glass, having been danced on the night before, and as the Hemingford boys had been accustomed to play on it they were not handicapped so much as the Alliance players. One party stated that the boys played as though they were on roller skates. Hemingford plays a return game with the Christians on the Alliance floor in January.

The next game scheduled is between the Alliance Methodists and the Hemingford Methodists at the high school gymnasium next Saturday night. This will be one of the fastest games that has been played this season and all those interested should arrange to attend. Two games, as usual, will be played, beginning at 7:30. An admission fee of 10 cents will be charged to pay for the use of the gymnasium.

STANDING OF TEAMS

Team	P	W	L	Pct
Intermediate—16 Years or under				
Alliance Baptist	2	2	0	1000
Alliance Christian	2	1	1	500
Hemingford Method.	2	1	1	500
Alliance Methodist	2	0	2	000
Junior—Not over 16 years—weight not over 110				
Alliance Baptist	2	2	0	1000
Alliance Methodist	2	1	1	500
Hemingford Meth.	2	1	1	500
Alliance Christian	2	0	2	000

WILL SELL EMPRESS

Theatre Closed Monday Night and
Will Be Sold at Public Auction
in Short Time

Harry Sohns, who recently purchased the Empress theatre, closed it Monday night, and the fixtures will be sold at public auction soon. This is being done to satisfy a first mortgage held by Harry DuBuque, and a second mortgage held by E. V. Cramer, who ran the show before selling to Mr. Sohns.

Since the theatre was opened by Mr. Sohns it had enjoyed a nice business, and the announcement of the foreclosure and sale came as a surprise. Mr. and Mrs. Sohns departed Monday night and will return to the stage. Before coming here Mr. Sohns was manager for one of the Hillman stock company's shows.

UNION TEMPERANCE RALLY

Alliance Churches to Unite in Meet-
ing at Christian Church,
Next Sunday Night

Sunday, December 12, has been designated as National Constitutional Amendment Day. Thruout Nebraska temperance people will not only celebrate the day as such, but will make use of the opportunity to stir up extra enthusiasm for the coming dry campaign in this state.

A union service will be held in the Christian church of Alliance, Sunday evening, commencing at 7:30 o'clock. As it is desired to begin the service promptly on time, other churches that will have young people's meetings that evening are requested to close them a few minutes earlier than usual, in order that all may be on time at the union meeting.

It is intended by those who have charge of the program to make this a rousing meeting for the opening in Alliance of the campaign for the adoption next year of statewide prohibition in Nebraska. An interesting program has been prepared, which will include music, several short addresses and other appropriate features.

Of course, everybody is cordially invited to attend.

CITY WINS THE FIRST
OF THE DAMAGE SUITSTook First Round from Property
Owners Along Box Butte Ave-
nue Who Asked Damages

NEXT CASE TO BE TRIED JAN. 11

The jury returned a verdict in favor of the defendant in the case of William and Alice Bignell vs. the City of Alliance, which was tried last Friday. The jury deliberated fifteen hours. Immediately after the verdict was received, Judge Westover adjourned court until January, at which time the next suit of the same kind will be heard. The jury held that the Bignell property had not been damaged in the least by the raising of the sidewalk.

At the next trial a new jury will be empaneled, as the jury in the Bignell case is disqualified owing to their having formed opinions from the evidence and from their verdict in this case. The case of Al. Wiker vs. the City of Alliance is the same as the Bignell case, as both properties were put below the street level by the establishment of the new grade, and it will require considerable filling to bring them up to the street level.

The city claimed that the new grades disposed of the surplus water from the north and west parts of town. Witnesses were of the opinion that the value of the property would be enhanced several hundred dollars when it was raised to the street level. In Mr. Bignell's case, it was estimated that when his property was raised it would be worth \$4,500, whereas he paid only \$2,500 for it, and this has considerable bearing on the verdict. The defense also sought to show that with only medium rainfall in former years the water had run into the Bignell cellar, and that last year, with more than normal rainfall, the surplus water was easily cared for by the new grades.

It was the plaintiff's claim that the only way in which the value of the property could be increased was to make the necessary fill, at a large expense.

FARMERS MEET HERE

Meeting Will be Held at the City Hall
to Discuss Farm Survey Work
for the Past Year

There will be a meeting of the farmers of Box Butte county at the city hall next Saturday afternoon at 2:30, at which time the county farm survey work will be discussed in detail by County Agent Seidell, and by R. R. Spafford, assistant leader in farm demonstration work in Nebraska.

The principal purpose of this meeting is to actually show the farmers that farming is purely a business proposition, and that it is the largest single line of business in the United States. At the meeting Saturday there will be presented the figures from the fifteen best paying farms and from the fifteen poorest paying farms in the county, and while no personal records will be discussed, any farmer that wishes may get the figures from his own farm and from his neighbor's farms for comparison. Such a comparison will easily show the owner of a poor paying farm where he has overlooked some betas, and where he can profit next year.

There will be no theoretical facts explained at the meeting—only actual figures will count, so that there will be no guesswork. While most farmers figure their homes a part of the farm and do not include the house rent factor, they will be shown that this item should be figured separately with them, the same as with the city business man.

That these figures are going to be of inestimable value goes without saying. When the merchant knows which departments of his store are paying and which are not, and on which items he makes the most profit, then he can conduct his business intelligently and make money. It is the same with the farmer. The farm demonstrator is endeavoring to show him which departments pay dividends, and how much, and which departments are conducted at a loss. Under such conditions, the farmer can farm intelligently and come out at the end of the year with a good labor income and with a good profit on his crops.